

Following Paragraph [0034], add:

--[0074] FIG. 1C shows a recumbent tricycle of the present invention. Said electric assist module has been interposed into the chain line in the same manner as in FIG. 1B. The addition of a second driven wheel in the rear of the tricycle has no effect on the operation of said electric assist module.--

--[0075] FIG. 1D shows a two seat recumbent tricycle of the present invention. Said electric assist module has been interposed into the chain line in the same manner as in FIG. 1B. The addition of a second seat and a second pedal mechanism in the front of the tricycle has no effect on the operation of said electric assist module.

--[0076] Not shown is a two seat recumbent bicycle. It would have the seat and pedal mechanism arrangement of FIG. 1D combined with a single rear driven wheel as in FIG. 1B. Such an arrangement would have no effect on the operation of said electric assist module.--

Claims:

Claim 1, has been amended as follows:

--1. (amended) A pedal operated recumbent bicycle or tricycle defined as:

- (a) a two or three wheel vehicle having a pedal mechanism for propulsion,
- (b) said pedal mechanism having a shaft rotatably mounted transverse to the vehicle structure and having a distance between the shaft rotational axis and a driven rear wheel axle centerline of 24 inches or greater and,
- (c) having means for transferring pedal power to a rear wheel or wheel pair and,
- (d) having a seat to support the rider in a position rearward of the pedal shaft and,
- (e) said seat having means in addition to simple friction between rider and seating surface to resist rearward motion of a rider exerting leg muscle force on the pedals and,
- (f) the lowest point of the seating surface of said seat being no more than 20 vertical inches above the rotational axis of said pedal shaft and,

said pedal operated recumbent bicycle or tricycle having an electric assist unit mounted between an imaginary vertical line drawn through the pedal shaft and an imaginary vertical line drawn through the driven rear wheel axle and having a means for transmitting power to a rear wheel or wheels and a means for transmitting power received from the pedal mechanism to said rear wheel or wheels, said electric assist unit comprising:

- (a) a means for mounting the electric assist unit to the frame of said recumbent bicycle or tricycle,
- (b) a support means for holding the elements of the electric assist unit in the correct positions relative to one another,
- (c) an electric motor having a means of controllably varying output torque, power, or speed,
- (d) said electric motor being coupled via an overrunning clutch to a speed reducing means,
- (e) said overrunning clutch being arranged to allow the speed reducing means to be rotated at a speed faster than the motor shaft without driving the motor,
- (f) said speed reducing means driving one or two rear wheels via a power transmission means,
- (g) said power transmission means allowing the ratio of motor rotational speed to wheel rotational speed to be changed while in operation,
- (h) the pedals of the recumbent bicycle or tricycle being coupled to said speed reducing means through another overrunning clutch such that the pedals may drive the rear wheels via the speed reducing means but will not be driven by the speed reducing means and,
- (i) a source of electric current selected from the group consisting of capacitors and inductors and storage batteries and fuel cells and photovoltaic cells and thermoelectric devices.--

Claim 4: Cancel.

Claim 5, has been amended as follows:

--5. (amended) An electric assist unit for recumbent bicycles and tricycles comprising:

(a) a means for mounting the electric assist unit onto a recumbent bicycle or a tricycle between pedals and rear axle,

(b) a support means for holding the elements of the electric assist unit in the correct positions relative to one another,

(c) an electric motor having a means of controllably varying output torque, power, or speed,

(d) said electric motor being coupled via an overrunning clutch to a speed reducing means,

(e) said overrunning clutch being arranged to allow the speed reducing means to be rotated at a speed faster than the motor without driving the motor,

(f) said speed reducing means driving one or more rear wheels via a power transmission means,

(g) said power transmission means allowing the ratio of motor rotational speed to wheel rotational speed to be changed while in operation,

(h) the pedals of the recumbent bicycle or tricycle coupled to said speed reducing means through another overrunning clutch such that the pedals may drive the rear wheels but will not be driven by the speed reducing means and,

(i) a source of electric current selected from the group consisting of capacitors and inductors and storage batteries and fuel cells and photovoltaic cells and thermoelectric devices.--

Claim 6, has been amended as follows:

--6. (amended) An electric assist unit as set forth in claim 5 having a rear wheel drive chain and a means for guiding said rear wheel drive chain onto a sprocket on the electric assist unit so as to inhibit chain derailment.--